Reviving Non-Aligned Movement

547. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Goverriment propose to take any steps to revive non-aligned movement in some other form to safegaurd the interest of small countries and save them from arm twisting by super powers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Government is of the view that the Non-aligned Movement continues to remain valid despite the changed international context. India has been playing an active role in strengthening the Movement to safegaurd the independence of action and freedom of judgement of its members.

Joint Indo-U.S. Naval Exercises

548. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Government still continues to be against big power presence in the Indian Ocean and did, therefore, have no joint naval exercise with the Soviet Union in spite of the very close relation with that State ; and

(b) whether in such circumstances the proposed joint exercise with the U.S. Navy in Indian Ocean along the Indian shorelines would be abandoned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) India stands committed to the UN declaration of 1971 which called for the elimination of foreign military presence in the Indian Ocean conceived in the context of great power rivalry. Indo-US naval exercises are part of cooperation witho any hostile intentions.

Filing of case by Bangladesh Against Ind

549. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware th Bangladesh is going to file a case again India in the International Court of Justice regarding the Farakka river issue; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof'.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN TH MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIF (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) at (b) Government have seen press repor stating that Bangladesh was likely to refi the case of sharing of river wate: between India and Bangladesh to tl United Nations. Government have, hov ever, also noted that at a press conferene on 23rd March, 1992 in Dhaka, the Bangl; desh Prime Minister in response to a que tion whether she had talks with the Ul Secretary General on the water issue wit India, has stated that the matter was beic dealt with bilaterally and the time ha not come to raise the issue at internatk nal forums.

भारतीय भूमि पर म्यांमार का दावा

550. श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :

श्री रणजीत सिंह :

क्या विदेश मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 1 अप्रैल 1992 के "दि स्टेट्समैन" में "म्यांमार टू-स रेइंडियन क्लेिजिज" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि म्यांमार सरकार ने भारतीय सीमा क्षेत्र के कतिपय क्षेत्र पर अपना दावा पेश किया है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो भारतीय सीमा क्षेत्र के किन-किन क्षेत्रों पर म्यांमार सरकार ने अपन

दावा पेश किया है, और उसका कुल क्षेत्रफल कितना है तथा वहां रहने वाले लोगों की संख्या कितनी है ; और

(ख) क्या सरकार ने इस राज्य क्षेत्रों पर अपने अधिकार का दावा करते हुए इस पर अपनी प्रतिक्रिया व्यक्त की है और यदि हां, तो कब और उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एडुआर्डो फेलेरियो) : (क) जी हां। सरकार को अखबार की इस खबर की जानकारी है।

(ख) से (घ) म्यांमार की सरकार ने भारतीय प्रदेश के किसी क्षेत्र पर ऐसा कोई दावा नहीं किया है। तथापि मणिपुर और अरुणाचल प्रदेश के क्षेत्रों में भारत–म्यांमार की सीमा पर कुछ हिस्से अभी तक सीमांकित नहीं हैं क्योंकि वहां जमीन पर सीमा स्तम्भों की स्थिति तथा नक्शों में उनके प्रदर्शन के बीच कुछ मतभेद हैं और दोनों पक्ष इस सवाल को अभी तक सुलझा नहीं सके हैं।

Changes in India's Foreign Policy

551. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA : Will tre Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleastd to state :

(a) whether the U.S. Government'.; desire for a big role for India, as was reported to have been expressed during India's Defence Minister's \isit lately to U.S.A., is in consonance with India's policy of non-alignment and without any tie up with any military bloc;

(b) what is the extent to which the service to service tie up between India and the U.S.A. is in consonance with the above policies ; and

(c) if not, whether these steps would be retracted or else basic change in India's foreign policy would be announced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) India has defence cooperation with several friendly countries, including the United States. India does not have a military alliance with any country and remains firmly committed to the policy of non-alignmem.

Strength of Commercial Staff in Embassies

552. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are keen to increase the strength of commercial staff in our embassies ;

(b) whether there is any resistance to re-orient the work of our embassies to give increased emphasis to trade and development of business ;

(c) what steps have been taken to implement decisions to strengthen the commercial and economic staff of our embassies ;

(d) the details of actual figures in this matter; mid

(e) the details of Indian embassies where Government have implemented changes to rrive new directions '.'

THE MINISTFR OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SHRI EDUARDO FAIEIRO): fa) Yes. Sir.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) to (*c)* The Government have decided that maximum emphasis should be placed by our Missions abroad to the task of promoting our economic and commercial relations. In keeping with the new priorities. additional staff has been provided in some selected Miss ons (Statement I). *(See* below) In order to implement changes, and to give new directions, target countries have been identified where extra attention would be paid, A list of these countries is given in Statement II.